

DB
could
a second computer readable program code for causing a computer to analyze data contained within a query to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

a third computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

a fourth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

a fifth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a message to the calling communication station in response to input from the called communication station.

REMARKS

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, Claims 60-66, 68-73, and 75-93 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tatchell et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Claims 60-66 and 68-93 have all been amended to recite, in one form or another: (1) generating a query in response to the receipt of a call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station; and (2) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within the query.

Tatchell et al. does not disclose either of these elements. While Tatchell et al. may generally discuss queries, Tatchell et al. does not disclose: (1) generating a query in response to

the receipt of a call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station; and (2) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within the query, as recited in claims 60-66 and 68-93. Therefore, Claims 60-66 and 68-93 are patentable over Tatchell et al. for at least these reasons.

In addition, with respect to Claim 66, Tatchell et al. does not disclose transmitting audible caller identification information and a text message to the called communication station as recited in Claim 66. Claim 66 is patentable over Tatchell et al. for this reason as well.

With respect to Claim 73, Tatchell et al. does not disclose transmitting a request for the calling party to speak the name of the party upon whose behalf he or she is calling. Claim 73 is patentable over Tatchell et al. for this reason as well.

With respect to Claims 77-83, Tatchell et al. does not disclose the combination of a service control point and a service node that are operative to perform the functions recited in Claims 77-83. Claims 77-83 are patentable over Tatchell et al. for this reason as well.

With respect to Claims 84-90, Tatchell et al. does not disclose the combination of a service control point and an intelligent peripheral that are operative to perform the functions recited in Claims 84-90. Claims 84-90 are patentable over Tatchell et al. for this reason as well.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 57-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. in view of Yaker. Claim 57 has been amended to recite, in part:

- “(c) receiving an override signal from the calling communication station; and
- (d) connecting the calling communication station and the called communication station in response to the override signal and without providing any caller identification information to the called communication station.”

In the Office Action, the Examiner has misstated these elements of Claim 57 in his rejection. Specifically, the Examiner states in the office action that Claim 57 requires “(c) transmitting the caller identification information to the called communication station . . . ; and (d) canceling the call in response to input from the called communication station” (Office Action, p. 6.) Clearly, neither of these elements are present in Claim 57.

Notwithstanding the Examiner’s misstatement of the elements of Claim 57, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Jones et al. nor Yaker discloses connecting the calling and called communication stations in response to the receipt of an override code without transmitting caller identification information as recited in Claim 57. Jones et al. discloses that a calling party can override a privacy setting by changing the privacy setting that the calling party had previously established. However, the purpose for changing the privacy setting is to allow the calling party’s caller identification information to be displayed to the called party. (Col. 2, lines 38-43.) Thus, neither Jones et al. nor Yaker discloses connecting the calling and called communication stations in response to the receipt of an override code without transmitting caller identification information as recited in Claim 57. Accordingly, even if Jones et al. and Yaker could be properly combined, Claims 57-59 are patentable over the cited combination.

Claim 74 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tatchell et al. in view of Jones et al. Because Claim 74 depends from Claims 60, 69, 70, and 71, it is also allowable for at least the reasons stated above. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the teachings of Tatchell et al. and Jones et al., and the proposed combination is the result of nothing more than using the claimed invention as a blueprint to pick-and-choose isolated elements from the prior art. Accordingly, Claim 74 is patentable for this reason as well.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason C. White

Registration No. 42,223

Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, Illinois 60610

APPENDIX A

Claims 57, 60-63, 66, 68-75, 77-80, 84-87, and 91-93 have been amended as shown below.

57. (Thrice Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising:

- (a) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;
- (b) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;
- (c) receiving an override signal from the calling communication station; and
- (d) connecting the calling communication station and the called communication station in response to the override signal and without providing any caller identification information to the [calling] called communication station.

60. (Twice Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising:

- (a) generating a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

[(a)] (b) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within [a] the query;

[(b)] (c) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

[(c)] (d) transmitting the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

[(d)] (e) canceling the call in response to input from the called communication station.

61. (Twice Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(a)] (b) comprises analyzing data contained within [a] the query to determine whether caller identification information for the calling communication station is unavailable.

62. (Twice Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(a)] (b) comprises analyzing data contained within [a] the query to determine whether the caller identification information for the calling communication station is incomplete.

63. (Twice Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(a)] (b) comprises analyzing data contained within [a] the query to determine whether caller identification information for the calling communication station has been blocked.

66. (Twice Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(c)] (d) comprises transmitting audible caller identification information and a text message to the called communication station.

68. (Twice Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the computer readable program code comprising:

a first computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

a [first] second computer readable program code for causing a computer to analyze data contained within a query to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

a [second] third computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

a [third] fourth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

a [fourth] fifth computer readable program code for causing a computer to cancel the call in response to input from the called communication station.

69. (Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising:

(a) generating a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

[(a)] (b) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within [a] the query;

[(b)] (c) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

[(c)] (d) transmitting the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

[(d)] (e) transferring the call to a voice mail system in response to input from the called communication station.

70. (Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising:

(a) generating a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

[(a)] (b) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within [a] the query;

[(b)] (c) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

[(c)] (d) transmitting the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

[(d)] (e) transferring the call to another location in response to input from the called communication station.

71. (Amended) A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising:

(a) generating a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

[(a)] (b) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing data contained within [a] the query;

[(b)] (c) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

[(c)] (d) transmitting the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

[(d)] (e) transmitting a message to the calling communication station in response to input from the called communication station.

72. (Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(b)] (c) comprises transmitting a request for the calling party to speak his or her name.

73. (Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(b)] (c) comprises transmitting a request for the calling party to speak the name of the party upon whose behalf he or she is calling.

74. (Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(b)] (c) comprises:
[(b1)] (c1) transmitting a message indicating that the called communication station does not accept calls from an unidentified calling party; and
[(b2)] (c2) transmitting a request for the calling party to speak his or her name.

75. (Amended) The method of claims 60, 69, 70, or 71, wherein [(c)] (d) comprises:
[(c1)] (d1) recording the audible caller identification information; and
[(c2)] (d2) transmitting the recorded audible caller identification information to the called communication station.

77. (Amended) A system for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station comprising:
a switch operative to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;
a service control point coupled with the switch, the service control point being operative to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing information contained within [a] the query; and

a service node coupled with the service control point, the service node being operative to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station and being operative to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station.

78. (Amended) The system of claim 77, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station is unavailable by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

79. (Amended) The system of claim 77, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station is incomplete by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

80. (Amended) The system of claim 77, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station has been blocked by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

84. (Amended) A system for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station comprising:

a switch operative to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

a service control point coupled with the switch, the service control point being operative to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station by analyzing information contained within [a] the query; and

an intelligent peripheral coupled with the service control point, the intelligent peripheral being operative to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station and being operative to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station.

85. (Amended) The system of claim 84, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station is unavailable by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

86. (Amended) The system of claim 84, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station is incomplete by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

87. (Amended) The system of claim 84, wherein the service control point is operative to determine whether the standard caller identification information for the calling communication station has been blocked by analyzing information contained within [a] the query.

91. (Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the computer readable program code comprising:

a first computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

a [first] second computer readable program code for causing a computer to analyze data contained within a query to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

a [second] third computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

a [third] fourth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

a [fourth] fifth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transfer the call to a voice mail system in response to input from the called communication station.

92. (Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the computer readable program code comprising:

a first computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

a [first] second computer readable program code for causing a computer to analyze data contained within a query to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

a [second] third computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

a [third] fourth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

a [fourth] fifth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transfer the call to another location in response to input from the called communication station.

93. (Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the computer readable program code comprising:

a first computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a query in response to the receipt of the call, wherein the query includes the telephone number associated with the calling communication station;

a [first] second computer readable program code for causing a computer to analyze data contained within a query to determine whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

a [second] third computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station;

a [third] fourth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit the audible caller identification information to the called communication station; and

a [fourth] fifth computer readable program code for causing a computer to transmit a message to the calling communication station in response to input from the called communication station.